WHEREAS, there are many children who lose their parents through desertion, illness, family disorganization or abuse and need someone's help; and,

WHEREAS, unfortunately, it is not always good for children to remain with their own family due to circumstances within the family that may be no-one's fault; and,

WHEREAS, there are many childrensome only a few hours old, with mental or physical handicaps, or emotional or unusual behavior problems beyond the capability of their own parents to cope with; and,

WHEREAS, Foster Parents can provide these children with the love, care, training, discipline and understanding they so desperately need; and,

WHEREAS, there is in South Dakota a great need for more Foster Parents for the children in our state who, for whatever the reason, cannot remain in their own homes:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby designate the week of April 9, through April 15, 1972, as

SOUTH DAKOTA ACTION FOR FOSTER CHILDREN WEEK

to coincide with National Action For Foster Children Week as proclaimed by the President of the United States.

During this observance I would urge all citizens of this state to join with others in efforts to improve foster family services in South Dakota to meet the needs of foster children, present and future. I would further commend those agencies and individuals involved in the foster care program for their outstanding efforts and for opening their homes and their hearts to foster children. I urge that they continue to improve the fine programs they presently have, and further urge individuals not now foster parents, but who feel that they might like to consider this rewarding responsibility to, during this week, contact the Welfare Department or one of the private social agencies to find out more about becoming a foster parent.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota in Pierre, the Capital City, this 3rd day of April in the Year of Our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-two.

Richard F. Kneip

RICHARD F. KNEIP, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Alma Larson

ALMA LARSON, SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA - BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATION - OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY
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